BAA 03-15 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(Some questions have been coupled due to similarity)

Q. Will a map of the areas of interest at Ft. Belvoir be provided? Can a site survey be made? Will you provide a map of the two proposed routes at Fort Belvoir that will be used for the phase I test?

A. You may reference a publicly available map of Ft. Belvoir at: http://www.belvoir.army.mil/map/2003belvoirmap.pdf

There will be no site survey prior to award. The route has not yet been prescribed. After contract award, the route will be determined cooperatively among Ft. Belvoir, DARPA, and the Contractor.

For planning purposes, plan on a 10-mile route, mixed terrain, primarily 2 & 4 lane roads, and 30 cameras.

Q. Will the attendee roster be provided with contact information? Will there be a website for providing information to assist in building and identifying teams and team members?

A. No contact information will be provided to protect privacy. The list of attendees will remain on the CTS BTI site http://www.schafercorp-ballston.com/bti2003/

Q. To aid in the teaming process will full contact information for each BTI participant be made available?

A. No

Q. If an Offeror team includes a COTS video surveillance supplier, how does the government want to handle proprietary claims issues?

A. COTS can be incorporated in the solution.

Q. Who pays for infrastructure installation (cabling, labor, hardware), both Ft. Belvoir and OCONUS?

A. Contractor.

Q. Captain Larsen mentioned attaching cameras to moving vehicles, this presents a very different set of issues is this in fact of interest?

A. You can assume the CTS cameras are stationary while processing.

Q. Video cameras are line-of-site (LOS) sensors. Do you allow non-LOS (NLOS) sensors in the program if they can be accommodated within budget and demonstrate improved performance?

A. Proposer should bid what they believe to be the best camera array. However, this is a video exploitation program.

Q. Is the program looking for a chip solution for each camera? Or will for this program COTS hardware be fine? Would it be ok for the program to have a laptop associated with each camera?

A. The program is not looking for a chip solution. With regards to the laptop, contractor discretion should be used.

Q. 100 OAV's can cost a lot of money? Does the program support NRI uses of 100 OAV's?

A. The contractor should provide a cost effective solution for both phases. Representative demonstration of the rapid deployment capability for phase II will suffice.

Q. Will program include active EV-laser acoustic seismic as added modalities to the video?

A. No active systems.

Q. Are 3D or stereo cameras of interest?

A. Proposors should bid what they believe to be the best camera array to satisfy program requirements.

Q. Will the camera at Ft. Belvoir be EO & IR that is full coverage with EO & IR?

A. Proposers should bid what they believe to be the best camera array to satisfy program requirement. All cameras will be provided by proposers.

Q. Does the program envisage development of ASIC, brand-level custom hardware? A. No.

Q. Does the proposal require plans for both the phases full 3-year program? A. Yes.

Q. Are we expected to leave personnel on Ft. Belvoir for the duration or some time period?

A. Operators will be required to install, operate and maintain test bed system.

Q. How will targets of interest be identified? Is there some a priori information that comes into the system? Or does the system interact with a human who will absolutely determine a target?

A. All of the above and more.

Q. What is the expected start? The schedule showed 3Qfy.

A. Anticipated contract award date is 1 Sept. 03.

Q. Will there be a full 4 mil in FY03? Or does it stagger? Are there dollars in 07?

A. There is 4m each contract year. Contracts will be incrementally funded by fiscal year.

Q. Where is the man in the loop?

A. Contractor discretion.

- Q. Are INSCOM/Ft. Belvoir personnel available for testing, etc? A. Yes.
- Q. The first phase demonstration system will be deployed in a "friendly" environment; the second phase "mout" system is designed, presumably, for covert installation in a "hostile" environment where it would be destroyed if detected by the enemy. Is design for potentially covert deployment a significant evaluation criterion? A. No. CTS will be developing a research prototype(s) -- not an operational system.
- Q. What requirements, if any, are being placed on the system in terms of LPI, AJ, or ability to counter countermeasures?

 A. None.
- Q. While communications is not an emphasis point, it would appear to be a major factor in the actual deployment of the nested system, particularly in an urban environment via wireless. Please comment on this point.

A. There is an inherent communication requirement for the system. Proposers should present their best communication approach for program success.

Q. What is the relationship between VIVID and CTS? There seems to be an overlap between the video understanding and tracking problems in the two programs. Will CTS be required to use technology developed in VIVID?

A. VIVID is concerned with a single camera or a moving, airborne platform. CTS is concerned with a large number of fixed cameras on the ground. There is no requirement to use the technology from one program in another.

Q. We understand that wireless comms are not a focus for CTS. But smart things need to be done at the application layer to live with a fickle comms network. Is that as area of interest for CTS?

A. Yes. The system needs to be able to function (not fail) when communication and servers are lost. The program is not focused on advanced communication protocols.

Q. Is distributed middleware for multiple camera tracking of interest to this program?

A. No.

Q. Please address, as specifically as possible, IXO receptivity to an consideration of foreign (allied) responses to the CTS BAA. Is DARPA fully open to foreign/allied proposals or teaming?

A. Foreign sources are not precluded from competition on BAA's, either as primes or partners with U. S. firms.

Q. Is government to government cooperation possible/under consideration? A. No